

the particles of bioactive glass and the topical antibiotic are defined as being capable of being mixed in a multi-chamber syringe. Support for this definition is found, at least, on page 14, lines 9-14. New claims 18-20 are essentially the same as claims 6-8 as originally filed. New claims 22-23 are essentially the same as claims 14-15 as originally filed, except that they now depend from claim 17. New claim 24 is essentially the same as claim 1 as originally filed, except that the term "non-interlinked" has been added to define the particles and the composition has been described as a mixture of particles of bioactive glass and a topical antibiotic.

The term "non-interlinked" does not constitute new matter. The fact that the particles are non-interlinked is clear from the specification as originally filed. The specification teaches on page 12, lines 1-5 that the particles are intended to be small. For instance, the Examples describe a mixture of particulate bioactive glass of fine particle size. The particles are intended to react with tissue to develop extremely high surface areas (see, for example, page 13, lines 7-22), which is not possible with interconnected particles. Further, the particles are intended to be mixed with an antibiotic to form a composition. While an interlinked glass composition can be combined with an antibiotic, it cannot be mixed in the same way as small, non-interlinked particles can be.

As shown in Examples 1 and 2 on pages 14 and 15, by mixing bioactive glass and an antibiotic, and placing the mixture into a wound, the healing time of wounds is substantially reduced. The bioactive glass, because it is non-interlinked, penetrates into the wound in a manner which is not possible with an interlinked mesh or web.

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Favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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